

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.
JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

All business or news letter and telegraphic
dispatches must be addressed New York
HERALD.

Volume XXXV.....No. 39

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

FRANCIS THEATRE, 14th st. and 6th av.—GENEVIEVE
AND HERMANS.

OLYMPIA THEATRE, Broadway.—SERIOUS FAMILY—
THE SEPTETTE.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth st.—SEAF-
OR, SUMMER SCENES AT LONG BEACH.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—GRAND ROMANTIC
PLAY OF THE DECK'S MOTO.

WOODS MUSEUM AND MENAGERIE, Broadway, cor-
ner Third and 4th sts.—Matinee daily. Performances every evening.

BOVEY THEATRE, Bovey, BUCK, BECK, HOW
MAY HONEST, ON GOLD UP TO 100, &c.

THE TAMMANY, Fourteenth street.—THE DECEASED
OF THE SEVEN.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—
BOBOL.

ROOTH'S THEATRE, 22d st., between 5th and 6th av.—
EDWIN BOOTH AS HAMLET.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of Eighth avenue and
3d st.—THE TWELVE APOSTLES.

MRS. F. D. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.—
THE FAIRY CIRCLE.—THE CRYSTALS OF THE COUNTRY.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 BOWERY.—COMIC
VOCALISM, NEGRO MINSTRELS, &c.

THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway.—COMIC VOCAL-
ISM, NEGRO ACTS, &c.

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Tammany Building, 15th
st.—BRYANT'S MINSTRELS.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 555 Broadway.—STRA-
TIFICATED MINSTRELS, NEGRO ACTS, &c.

REILLY & LYON'S MINSTRELS, 7th Broadway.—ETHIO-
PIAN MINSTRELS, NEGRO ACTS, &c.

NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.—EQUINESTRIAN
AND GYMNASTIC PERFORMANCES, &c.

ROOTH'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—ROOTH'S
MINSTRELS.—THE THEATRICAL AGENCY, &c.

APOLLO HALL, corner 25th street and Broadway.—
THE NEW HUNGARIAN.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 515 Broadway.—
SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Tuesday, February 8, 1870.

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NOTICE TO HERALD SUBSCRIBERS.

We will esteem it a favor if our readers will
inform us, by letter addressed to this office, of
any dereliction on the part of the carriers of
the Herald, either in furnishing the paper late,
substituting other city papers, or leaving spoiled
sheets.

KIT BURN'S RAT PIT was dedicated to re-
ligion yesterday, and will no longer be a bot-
tomless pit.

THE TRIAL OF McFARLAND.—Judge Bedford
has decided against the motion to transfer the
case of McFarland to the Court of Oyer and
Terminer, and it will be tried in the Court of
General Sessions. The case will be ready in
about four weeks.

THE COMING CENSUS.—It is probable from
the discussion in the Senate yesterday on the
Census bill that the matter will be arranged so
that the census of 1870 will be taken under
the regulations of 1850, modified to suit the
new amendments to the constitution.

COMPOUNDING FELONIES.—Judge Ingraham,
in his charge to the Grand Jury at the Court
of Oyer and Terminer yesterday, especially
referred to the compounding of felonies which
has become so frequent. That prominent
lawyer in Wall street, of whom we spoke the
other day, would be a fine case for the jury
to experiment on.

THE NEW ASSOCIATE JUSTICES.—Judge
Strong, of Pennsylvania, and Joseph P. Brad-
ley, of New Jersey, have been appointed to
the vacant judgeships on the Supreme bench.
Both of the nominations are strong, but the
Southern Senators object to Bradley because
they want their own section represented.

The Legal Tender Decision of the Supreme Court of the United States.

We publish this morning in full the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States en-
braced in the opinion delivered by Chief Justice Chase on the constitutionality of the Legal Tender act of 1862 in its application to debts contracted before the passage of the law. The question was brought before the court on an appeal from the Court of Appeals of Kentucky, and the decision of the court below is sustained, that a contract made before the passage of the law cannot be discharged in the paper money of the United States, but must be paid in so many dollars and cents, gold valuation.

The Legal Tender act of Congress, approved February 25, 1862, provides that Treasury notes (greenbacks) authorized by the act shall be receivable in payment of all United States taxes, excises, debts and demands of every kind due, excepting duties on imports and interest on the public debt, and shall also be lawful money and a legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private, within the United States, excepting duties upon imports, &c. This is the law in question, and since its passage it has been universally accepted as covering all private debts and obligations throughout the United States, including contracts made before as well as those made after the passage of the act. In the simple prohibition of the constitution against any *ex post facto* law, without any further words on the subject, one would think the question settled that even an act of Congress, making its paper money a legal tender in the payment of all debts, could not operate backwards; but in the nearly equal division of the Supreme Court upon this case, and in the exhaustive and somewhat exhausting opinion of the Chief Justice on the one side, with the dissenting opinion of Mr. Justice Miller on the other side, we see that the plainest constitutional provisions, before a committee of lawyers, are involved in the greatest difficulties, doubts and uncertainties.

It is enough, however, that the majority of the court are with the Chief Justice in his opinion that gold or its equivalent must be given in the settlement of all debts and obligations contracted before the passage of this Legal Tender act of 1862. In the single item of interest on mortgages in this city alone this decision, practically adding twenty per cent to their value, will perhaps require an increased payment in greenbacks of seven or eight millions; for we estimate the principal of the unsettled mortgages in this city contracted prior to the approval of the Legal Tender act as covering not less than five hundred millions of dollars. Throughout the country the holders of mortgages and other contracts to which this decision will apply are gainers to the extent probably of over a hundred millions in greenbacks.

But this opinion of the Chief Justice is of less importance in the decision given than in the decision withheld. The decision given does not touch the validity of greenbacks as a legal tender since the passage of the act of 1862. All such payments, therefore, still hold good, and may still be made. Whatever may be the opinion of the Chief Justice upon this important branch of the subject, he has carefully avoided expressing it, and for the reason, no doubt, that he has thought it best not to risk a decision at this time. For example, if the Chief Justice had ventured an opinion, one way or the other, and the majority of the court had decided that the paper money of the United States cannot be made a legal tender by act of Congress, and that the act of 1862 is null and void, a financial revolution would be precipitated upon the country, the consequences of which would be disastrous beyond all contemplation. It would involve the whole country in financial chaos and the government, perhaps, in bankruptcy and repudiation.

This panic and this convulsion have been avoided, and we have no fears that the Supreme Court will risk for a long time to come a decision against our greenback currency as a legal tender. As the father of the greenback, as the founder of our present national paper money system, bonds, banks and currency, we cannot doubt that upon this legal tender question Chief Justice Chase is with Chase the Secretary of the Treasury. We cannot believe that he would deliberately proceed to build up a paper money system which he believed to be unconstitutional, nor can we suppose that he has since become so much more learned in the constitution as to change his mind on the subject. In short, we have no fears of any decision from the Supreme Court that will derange our financial system, the credit of the government or the business affairs of the country growing out of the financial measures adopted by Secretary Chase to carry the Union through the late revolutionary war.

We rather expect that after the addition to the Supreme Court of the two members required to fill two vacancies (and for which the President has sent in his nominations to the Senate) we shall have an opinion from the Chief Justice, supported by a majority of the court, if not by all the court, sustaining the Legal Tender act. At all events, as the Supreme Court (even when most strongly seasoned with State rights men) has carefully avoided any disturbing collision with Congress on its war measures and reconstruction laws, so we expect it will carefully avoid any decision calculated to shake in any way our national currency or credit, as it has avoided any such decision upon this greenback appeal from Kentucky.

THE INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH.—We this morning publish a cable dispatch which announces the completion of the Indo-European telegraph. This line, which is composed of land wire and cable, runs via Berlin, Warsaw, Odessa, Teheran (Persia), through the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean to Bombay, Madras and Calcutta and the other points contemplated. It will be seen from the cable dispatch that a certain and, so far as we have had time to judge, not unreasonable offer has been made to the United States. It will be well, we think, for the United States not to be too rash in coming to terms. In a few days another line will be completed between London and the great Asiatic centers. The Great Eastern has, now, in all probability, almost completed her trip. In that case a telegraphic communication will be established between London and Calcutta via Malta, Alexandria, Suez and Aden. When this line is completed, we may have even greater advantages.

The British Empire as Presented to Parliament—Queen Victoria's Abdication Canvassed in London.

The occasion of the reopening of the session of the British Parliament to-day affords us a fitting and most opportunity to present to our readers an exhibit of the actual condition of the vast Old World empire as it will be stated, in the name of its ruler, to the members of the two houses, Lords and Commons. The Crown of the United Kingdom meets the representatives of the peoples subject to the sceptre of Victoria in a very serious crisis of its history. It is, consequently, of great moment that the enlightened, educated and neutral tribunal, the American nation, a tribunal which will most probably be eventually compelled to arbitrate the many issues which will directly exist between the democracy of England and the remnants of the feudal and aristocratic interests which remain in that country, should have an intelligent statement of the case. This we now supply. Franchise reform, the rights of labor, freedom of conscience, free trade, free schools, freedom of political expression, the Alabama claims, summary judicial sentences and Irish convicts, the colonial situation, the shipping interests and telegraphs, will all engage the attention of the members. Our special *résumé* to-day will thus enable the readers of the HERALD to keep the track of the foreign legislative work as it progresses in London.

In this connection we may mention here that we have it stated in a special correspondence from London that the question of the abdication of Queen Victoria is again canvassed actively in the highest circles of English society and almost demanded by the masses. It is also said that her Majesty has fallen into the— in her case unnecessary—habit of hoarding money, and that she has to-day the sum of half a million of pounds sterling standing to her credit in various banks—savings from an allowance of one hundred thousand pounds sterling per annum. This unprofitable absorption of the public money displeases the people—a fact which was perceived by the late Lord Palmerston at an early date, when he, in his independent constitutionalism and prudent Cabinet anticipation, proposed an abdication and regency years ago. We shall see.

The Pilots and the Herald.

We yesterday had the pleasure of receiving the following LETTER FROM THE PILOTS OF NEW YORK.
JAMES GORDON BENNETT, NEW YORK, Feb. 7, 1870.
SIR—The undersigned Sandy Hook pilots, in view of the kindly consideration which prompted you to cause the publication of the article upon the organization, workings and extent of our business, as appeared in the HERALD of Friday last, giving us thereby the benefit of such an admirable exposition, and also for past evidences of your esteem, desire most heartily to thank you, and to assure you that these favors are duly appreciated.

We are, very respectfully, your obedient servants,
H. HARRINGTON,
On behalf of the New York and Sandy Hook Pilots.
DAVID C. CHAPMAN,
On behalf of the New Jersey Pilots.
As according to the old axiom "good wine needs no bush," so the pilots of New York can receive no more than praise well due them, let it come from what quarter it may. For over thirty years the HERALD has been the willing endorser of the claims of the hardy pilots of the port. They risk their lives and their property to preserve the lives and property of others. They go from our shores from five hundred to a thousand miles for the purpose of showing the way for an inward bound ship to enter our beautiful bay and into our eminently "snug harbor."

In view of the interests of this deserving class of enterprising men, whose income from pilotage has been considerably reduced since the introduction so largely of steam into our foreign commerce, we hold it to be a small potato business for our merchants to attempt to reduce the amount of fees well earned by our pilots for their perilous ventures. These merchants—we hope the insurance underwriters are not included in the class—seem to forget the danger our pilots run, not from the accidents liable to all who "go down to the sea in ships," but from their liability to contract diseases by boarding vessels upon which contagious diseases, like the yellow fever, smallpox or ship fever may prevail. Taken altogether, while thanking our friends, the pilots, for their complimentary notice of ourselves, we repeat that whatever we may have said in their behalf has sprung entirely from an appreciation of their high merits, and with a sincere desire to aid them in the future as we have endeavored to do in the past.

ROCHEFORT AND THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.—Some days ago M. Rochefort was tried and found guilty. He had instigated opposition to the government, and one of the results of that opposition was the murder of one of his assistants by the hand of a Bonaparte, and he a cousin of the Emperor. A jury found M. Rochefort guilty and pronounced his sentence. The sentence gave M. Rochefort some time and some privileges. He has not taken advantage of either the one or the other. The time has come when he must go to prison, or, in other words, surrender himself to the authorities. Rochefort says he will not do either the one or the other. If the authorities want him they must come and take him by force. This is the latest. If the French government do not come and take him by force they will reveal their weakness. If they come and take him by force they may reveal the strength of the opposition. It is a fresh difficulty. To our minds it is one other proof of the danger of delay. National justice, to be efficient, should be swift.

THE INSURANCE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE held a session with closed doors yesterday afternoon, took some testimony and adjourned *sine die*, going off to Albany immediately. The newspapers, who have been giving the investigation a rather severe overhauling, evidently frightened them off, and they had no time to run up a bill for theatres, wine suppers and the like, to be included in their estimate of expenses. It is probably as cheap a committee, as far as the people in general are concerned, as we have had for a long time.

PROTECTIVE TARIFFS.—The House appears to be nearly equally divided on the question of protective tariffs, the preponderance being on the side of the protectionists by about a dozen votes. A resolution to lay on the table a previous resolution favoring a revenue tariff and discountenancing protection was carried yesterday by a majority of twelve.

The New Charter and the Doubtful Senators.

Republican organs are making capital out of the reported disruption in the democratic majority in the State Senate in regard to the proposed new city charter. That a democratic majority in the Legislature of New York should get at loggerheads after twenty years deprivation of power is unexampled in the history of the democratic party in this State since the days of Jackson. The new charter restores to the municipality of the metropolis its ancient rights of sovereignty, of which it was deprived because a majority of the members of the Legislature from the rural districts of the republican persuasion imagined there were pickings and stealings here in which they had no hand or finger. Hence their anxiety to delve in the supposed new political Golconda.

Now, it has come to this—either the democratic Senators will manfully support the new charter or they will whirl the State again into the radical line. There are four gentlemen who enjoy the distinguished honor of being representatives of the democracy of the State in the higher branch of the Legislature. Three of these are from the metropolis proper. We mean Harry Genet, Mike Norton and Tom Creamer. The quartet is finished by the introduction of Senator Chris Norton from Plattburgh, Clinton county. Senator Henry W. Genet is scheduled as a Tammany democrat, and hails from the district of Harlem, New York city. He was born in the land of steady habits in 1828. Beside the advantages of the place of his birth Mr. Genet has won very largely upon the esteem of his fellow citizens by an upright and manly career as a whig and democratic politician. Sometimes old whigs make very poor democrats, but in the case of Mr. Genet he has won laurels under the banners of democratic Tammany, and there does not appear to be any reason why he should go back upon her in the vital matter of the new city charter.

Michael H. Norton is also a Tammany democrat. Michael will belie his ancestry if he neglects the present opportunity to stick to the principles of self-government as vindicated upon the soil of his nativity by the pouring out of precious blood in behalf of the freedom of the Green Isle. In remembering Old Ireland Mike will remember Old Tammany.

Thomas J. Creamer is also a Tammany democrat. Senator Creamer is a native of the metropolis. He knows as well as any other representative man the wants of the city and the free principles upon which it should be governed. Everybody likes Creamer. He is the *crème de la crème* of social and political festivities, and it would be strange indeed if he should wander from the fold and turn his back upon his gentle foster-mother, sense Tammany. Senator Creamer is a man of sense and discretion. His course in regard to the new Magna Charta will be viewed with especial interest by his many friends and supporters in the city.

Christopher F. Norton, from Clinton county (no relation, as we take it, of our Mike), the fourth in the quartet of doubtful Senators, is a "Hail Columbia" and "Yankee Doodle" democrat. It is his boast that none of his name, nor any one else hailing from the noble fields of Plattburgh, which fringe Lake Champlain, where the distinguished Macdonough won imperishable renown in 1814 by splendidly whipping a British squadron under Commodore Downie, ever proved recreant to the principles of self-government, and it is hardly expected that Senator Chris Norton will suffer his laurels to be secured by an abandonment of time-honored democratic principles upon this question of restoring to the city of New York her just municipal rights.

We will remind these doubtful Senators that the adoption of the new charter will be second in the page of history only to the adoption of the constitution of the United States. Therefore it will be exercising the part of wisdom as well as of patriotism for them to cast no obstacles in the way of its triumphant success. Let the whole instrument be thoroughly ventilated. If there be a nigger in the woodpile, draw him out and show him up. But do not permit a grand measure like this, framed and intended for the benefit of over a million of people, be thwarted by the machinations of political adversaries or the intrigues of local factionists.

MURDEROUS ATTACK ON AMERICANS IN HAVANA.—Four Americans were attacked in the streets of Havana on Sunday morning. They were fired on at first by a rowdy and afterwards treated in a most cruel manner by the mob who gathered round them. One of the men was killed, two others were seriously injured and the fourth escaped unhurt. The only offense the Americans were guilty of was that of wearing blue neckties. This annoyed a rowdy and he fired on the wearers and thus paved the way for further outrage. This is a nice specimen of Havana rowdyism. It is consoling, however, to learn that "hanging for murder is not played out" in Cuba, for we are informed that the Captain General has resolved that when the culprit is arrested he will be tried by a drumhead court martial and executed within two hours after the sentence is passed. This is the only way to deal with rowdies who travel about with the knife and the revolver, both ready for use on the slightest provocation. Would that we had a little such Captain Generalism in this city.

THE FRENCH DARIEN CANAL COMPANY.—Parisian capitalists of late have been watching eagerly the progress of events in the West. The prospect of a ship canal through the Isthmus of Darien now attracts their attention. The success of the Suez enterprise has given them the cue to look elsewhere for similar fields of labor. A short time since a company was organized in Paris for the construction of a canal across the Isthmus of Darien. A competent engineer has already sailed from Paris for the purpose of conducting the explorations in the interest of the company. This looks like business. It is an evidence of the great necessity of a ship passage between the two oceans. The French company shows that it estimates properly the many advantages which will surely accrue to commerce from the accomplishment of the great work. Suez would be only of secondary importance when compared to Darien. The French capitalists see this, and hence their anxiety in the getting of the isthmus.

The National Labor Union.

In another place in this day's HERALD we publish a couple of documents relative to the National Labor Union. The one document makes certain proposals to the New York HERALD. The other document states the immediate programme of the Union. With the latter document we have really nothing to do. Of the first document we have not much to say. We publish both because they relate to a public movement of some importance. Regarding the proposal made to the HERALD we have only to say the HERALD never has been, is not now and never will be the organ of any clique, of any party or of any class. We think of the United States and of the whole body of the people. Our object is to serve the nation, not cliques, sects, parties or classes. Our columns will be open to the labor unionists, as they ever have been open and as they ever will be open to any body of men who seek to put down the oppressor or to annihilate wrong. We shall watch the Labor Union as we watch all other organizations, as, indeed, we watch all the world. When the Labor Union does well we shall praise; when it does not well we shall blame. Meanwhile we wish all success to every cause that seeks the right and does the same.

India Rubber Received by Atlantic Cable.

We yesterday received by the Atlantic cable from London the following precious despatch:—

LONDON, Feb. 6, 1870.
The Times this morning reprints a great portion of an editorial article from the New York Times of January 24, and comments approvingly on the latter's assertion that American credit is dying in Europe because of the refusal of the United States to give the above, it will be seen, an unusual place for advertisements in the columns of the HERALD. We do this with a full appreciation of the charity we so kindly bestow upon a well deserving but a rather feeble contemporary. It is pleasant, you know, to help the weary and the distressed. Therefore, while we reflect upon the fact that the New York Times is or was owned in part by the agent of the New York Associated Press, and, furthermore, that the Associated Press cable agent in London was once an attaché of the New York Times, we feel more than rejoiced in having this opportunity to display an instance of our exemplary philanthropy.

The HERALD does not ask for itself any such style of advertisement. It paid for Atlantic cable despatches in the beginning of the enterprise more than all the New York or all the American newspapers put together. Yet, being in an association wherein interests are supposed to be identical or held in common, we may be permitted to inquire why cannot this same Associated Press afford to send, at an expense say of twenty or thirty dollars in gold per day, a cable despatch puffing up some other member of the Associated Press? Now there is our philosophizing neighbor of the Tribune. Why don't the agents of the Associated Press in London and this city give the Tribune a lift by cable? We will not pretend to say what will be most interesting or most beneficial to that journal; yet we venture to predict that the fact that an essay about the tariff on wool or pig iron, or upon the propagation of strawberries or the incubation of squashes, if announced by cable as published in the London Star or London Post, or any other cockney journal, will be hailed with huge satisfaction by our pond lily featured contemporary in Printing House square. Then there is our other friend and enjoyer of the benefits of this benign association—the effulgent and exuberant Sun. Let the agent of the Associated Press send by cable a despatch that won't cost more than thirty dollars in gold, announcing that the London Owl has copied an extract from the Sun announcing that the general editor has concluded upon having Mr. Daniel Drew, or Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, or Mr. George Law, or Mr. Reddy the Blacksmith the next President of the United States. That would be a very nice advertisement, and would undoubtedly be handsomely appreciated. Then there is our copperhead contemporary that does up the election returns so truthfully and so capably. It would make the jaws of a Cossack of the Ukraine crack if he could see a cable despatch announcing that these mathematical hallucinations had been copied into the *Sjoridischski Klippendong*, the private organ of Alexander II., the Emperor of all the Russias. Our venerable coadjutor of the Journal of Commerce ought also to come in for a first rate notice by cable. It might be touched up and its ancient broadsides made to wriggle in glee by any happy reference to a Dutch importation or some other solidarity in that line. And now, having passed through most of the list of contributors to the support of the cable Associated Press, we modestly suggest that the HERALD may be allowed to have its turn. Knowing very well that it can pay for what it seeks, it would be pleasing for the HERALD to know that while its companions in associated cable publicity are not neglected, it may itself, some time or other, come in for a small share of the benefits of this newly invented style of india rubber advertising by Atlantic cable.

THE CITY TAX LEVY was discussed in the Board of Aldermen yesterday and laid over for a week in order that members might examine the items. It will be found elsewhere in our columns this morning. The aggregate amounts to \$3,854,349, which is a decrease on last year of \$1,068,760.

THE INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL was reported in the House yesterday. It amounts to nearly three million dollars less than the appropriation last year, and nearly two million less than the department estimate. Here is an instance of the combined effect of Grant's economy and Dawes' speech.

THE LEGAL TENDER ACT DECISION—THE EFFECT IN WALL STREET.—It will be seen by our financial report that the decision of the United States Supreme Court produced a profound sensation among the "bulls" and "bears," who for an hour or two were at their wits' ends to divine the result upon their stock and gold gambling schemes. At first, on the principle of Hoyle—"when in doubt play trumps"—the "bulls" made haste to sell out, while the "bears" began to hammer the market. After a while the "bulls" began to think "it wouldn't be much of a shower after all," and no rallied prices toward the close and averted what threatened to become a heavy break in the stock market.

BRAZIL'S LITTLE GAME.—Brazil is showing her hand, and before this her allies in the Paraguayan war no doubt have realized the real part they played in their operations against Lopez. The latest news we have from South America tells us of a movement on the part of Brazil to establish a military station at Higueritas, a post in the Uruguayan republic. A pretext is given for this proceeding, but statesmen are never wanting in pretexts to sustain their measures. If the news proves true it may lead to grave consequences. We suggest that Secretary Fish should inquire into the matter.

REVELS.—The democrats in the Senate, it appears, are not averse to the admission of the colored Senator from Mississippi except on grounds of inelegibility, but many of the radical members are opposed to him on the ground of alleged previous immorality. If this charge is sufficient to exclude Revels it ought to be sufficient to oust Senators already in, and would be likely to make a pretty clean sweep.

A NICE QUESTION.—A cable despatch has it that the Ecumenical Council will soon deliberate on the opportuneness of the discussion of the dogma of infallibility. Opportuneness is a nice word. It reveals what is wanted and it unveils the danger.

FINE ARTS.

Sale of the Thompson Collection of Paintings.

Such an extensive collection of ancient and modern paintings as those of the late Thomas Thompson, of Boston, the disposal of which at auction at the Leeds Art Galleries on Broadway, began yesterday morning, has never before been offered for sale in this city. As previously announced there are over 1,500 paintings in the collection, embracing every variety of pictures of the old and modern schools, and the products of a great diversity of artists. A fine art connoisseur, and the collection of paintings being a "ruling passion strong" with him, as the collection of diamonds is the all-pervading passion of the Duke of Brunswick. Mr. Thompson exercised an exquisitely cultivated discrimination in his selections, and the result was a gallery of paintings of choicely unique character, of marked originality and rare worth. The public having had abundant opportunity to see them and judge for themselves in advance of the sale, there was of course a large gathering there yesterday.

Among many ladies who in their desire to possess their previously selected favorites, not infrequently bid counter to gentlemen buyers. It was a noticeable fact, however, that greenbacks—as in these unkindly days, so far removed from the chivalric era of the medieval times, too often is the case—were quite plentiful, and the prices, though in nearly every case falling far short of the original cost, were very fair. At the opening sale, beginning at eleven A. M. and lasting till four P. M., 123 pictures were sold. The highest price realized was for an exquisite landscape by Geary, "The Valley of the Hudson," which was sold for \$1,000. Next on the list was "The Watering Place," by J. M. W. Turner, which brought \$250. There was also a portrait of a woman, "Madame de Sevigne," by Raphael, which brought \$150. A beautiful group, brought \$150, "Diana After the Chase," painted with the usual rare and delicate touch of the old masters, brought \$125. "The Deluge," by Rembrandt, a masterly delineation of this supernatural chaotic era in the world's history, \$100. "The Crucifixion," the last of the Dutch school, \$110, and the "Cowthorpe Oak," a majestic picture of this proud monarch of the forest, \$100. "Washington's Farewell to the Army," by Howard Chandler Christy, a group of rare portraits, painted with rare skill, \$90, and "Magdalen," by Guicciardini, \$80. Among those bringing lesser prices was an oval "Landscape," by Huber, which sold for \$50; "The Sunbeam," by Bellows, \$30; "Portrait of the Prince of Wales and Mrs. Victoria," by Sir Peter Paul Rubens, \$25; "A Portrait of Lady Johnson," by Sir Peter Paul Rubens, \$25; "Boers Carousing," by Mollma, \$25; "Portrait of Mr. Fox," by Inman, \$20; "Portrait of a Lady," by Rowland Kneller, \$20; "Sevigne," by Raphael, \$20. Copy of Gilbert Stuart's portrait of Washington, now in the possession of the Marquis of Lansdowne, \$10. "Landscape," by a portrait of Captain Barlow, by Romney, \$20. "Boys Playing Soldiers," by Romney, \$20. "Portrait of his daughter," by Romney, \$20. "Twilight," by a portrait of a woman, by Sir John Everett Millais, \$20. "The Harp," by Bouverie, \$20. "Dorothy," from Don Quixote, by Fox, \$20. "Some Pumpkins," by Carleton, \$20. "A Boy and a Girl," by a portrait of a woman, by Sir John Everett Millais, \$20. "A very small picture," by Huber, for \$41.

The evening sale was largely attended; but the bidding was not quite so spirited. It was the privilege of the auctioneers to dispose of 120 pictures at each sale. Among those disposed of last evening the following were particularly noted: "Landscape," by 169 "View in Switzerland," \$100, and two companion pictures, Nos. 238 and 239, "Italian Sunset" and "Italian Moonlight," \$110 each; "Landscape and Church," by J. M. W. Turner, \$120; "Park Scene," No. 171, B. J. Watts, \$120; "Enticement of Christ," No. 99, Carracci, \$20; "Females Bathing," by Rembrandt, \$20; "Landscape," by "Cupid Weeding Hebe," No. 190, Jacob De Witt, \$240; "English Cornfields," Shewery Day, No. 191, H. P. S. \$20; "A Boy and a Girl," by Sir John Everett Millais, \$20; "A Knight," \$120; "Marino," No. 198, Van der Pelt, \$100; "Pillemon and Banius," No. 226, Jacob Jordans, \$200; "Uggh Imporing Jupiter to Restore Psyche to Life," No. 120, by J. M. W. Turner, \$20; and a day at eleven o'clock, at No. 241 in the catalogue.

Autique Female Statuo.

A half life size statue, completed to the hips, of what is alleged to be a portrait of Sappho, wrought by a Cyprian artist out of hard chank stone, a species of marble, is now on exhibition at No. 159 Fifth avenue. This work is claimed to be 2,200 years old and only recently discovered. In these days of Caricatures many may be disposed to take the statements of the exhibitor and the artist at their word, but the antiquity ascribed to it or to it is certainly a work of rare beauty. The features are the most perfect of the type on which the statue is represented, and show true artistic genius. There are earrings, a necklace and bracelets, showing the fondness for female decorations in those days, and all exquisitely chiseled.

In connection with this is on exhibition a series of paintings of the same Sappho, the artist, taken on the spot by Mr. Bookman, the exhibitor. As rough sketches and correct delineations of the scenes they portray they are exceedingly well done.

Macdonald's Bust of James T. Brady.

Quite a number of gentlemen, eminent in art and literature, assembled at Mr. J. Wilson Macdonald's studio, 607 Broadway, yesterday evening, for the purpose of viewing the bust of the late James T. Brady, which Mr. Macdonald has just finished for presentation to the Law Institute. As a work of art the bust is not inferior to the best efforts of the sculptor, and is worthy to commemorate the distinguished lawyer of whom it is a striking likeness. The pose of the head and the characteristically firm expression of the mouth and chin are remarkably accurate. The bust is of the finest marble and of life size. Mr. Macdonald had to rely on photographs of his subject, and from the photographs he has worked having received the order after Mr. Brady's death; but, as already stated, he has been entirely successful. The committee of gentlemen who commissioned Mr. Macdonald to place the bust on the pedestal of the Law Institute, and who are to be paid for it, are to be made to the Law Institute to-morrow by Judge Edmunds in the Supreme Court, and Mr. James W. Gerard will receive the bust on the part of the Institute. An elegant pedestal has been provided for the work and will be presented with it. The slab on which the bust will stand when in position is a magnificent piece of green marble.

ARMY INTELLIGENCE.

Major William M. Dye, Brevet Colonel Fourth Infantry, at his own request, has been dropped from the rolls of his regiment, and directed to proceed home and await orders.

By direction of the President, Major Alexander Chambers, unassigned, is transferred to the Fourth Infantry, and ordered to report without delay to the Commanding General at the department of the Platte for assignment. First Lieutenant Charles Garretson, unassigned, is detailed for duty in the Second Cavalry, and will be assigned to duty in Texas.

The resignation of First Lieutenant Francis J. Dunn, Twenty-second Infantry, has been accepted.

NAVY INTELLIGENCE.

Lieutenant Commander K. E. O'Donoghue has been detached from the Taconic and ordered home.